

I strongly believe that Israel has the right to defend itself against terrorism. However, while the resolution expresses support for Israel's right to construct a security barrier, it is clear to me that this measure was a cynical attempt to divide people for political gain here in the United States.

There are legitimate questions as to the propriety and wisdom of the action taken by the International Court of Justice, ICJ, in this matter, and in fact I personally disagree with their decision. However, this resolution goes too far and condemns the ICJ for politicizing an issue, when the very reason the Republican majority brought this issue to the floor is for political purposes.

Over the past four years, the House of Representatives has passed, with my support, at least nine non-binding Resolutions in regards to Israel. I entreat the leadership to now expend the same effort and energy to craft meaningful legislation that actually takes substantive action to further the Middle East peace process rather than paying so much lip service, as we too often do on issues of importance.

Over the years, the United States has been a vital player in facilitating peace negotiations in the Middle East. I have long said that the U.S. should be the first to support Israel's right to protect its citizens. I have also taken the position that Congress should not formally endorse the security fence, nor should we oppose it. To do so, I believe, meddles in internal Israeli affairs and compromises the U.S.'s ability to be a player in future peace negotiations.

The future security of the Middle East depends on negotiating a just, permanent, and peaceful settlement between Israelis and Palestinians that both guarantees Israel's security and establishes a Palestinian state. I cannot support resolutions, such as H. Res. 713, that are detrimental to this process.

I believe that it is the responsibility of those who are pro-Israel, like myself, to support measures that advance the security of Israel. This legislation does not do that. My efforts and advocacy over the years on behalf of Israel speaks for itself, and my support for Israel will continue throughout my tenure as a Member. I urge the Republican majority to get serious about promoting peace in the Middle East and the security of Israel rather than wasting Congress' time with non-binding resolutions intended to make political points in an election year.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOSHUA PHILLIPS OF COCONUT CREEK, FL, WINNER OF THE CONGRESSIONAL ART CONTEST

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2004

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Joshua Phillips of Coconut Creek,

Florida, the 22nd Congressional District's winner of the 2004 annual Congressional Art Competition. When I was first confronted with the complex montage of images that is Joshua's piece, American Aesthetic, I was immediately struck with its creativity and uniqueness. American Aesthetic now adorns the Cannon Capitol tunnel, and I have taken special care to instruct my staff to point it out to tour groups that they lead. Despite being among what is a group of some of the finest pieces of art done by young people in this nation, I am constantly told, and I agree, that Josh's artwork stands alone.

Of course, Joshua's achievement should not come as a surprise since he is a young man who has already made a name for himself through his accomplishments as his school's starting defensive end, and in the highly competitive academic program at his high school, Westminster Academy. It is worth noting that Joshua is Westminster Academy's second winner in this competition, proving that its high-quality academic program works to engender the kind of excellence in youth that our nation values.

Mr. Speaker, again I would like to extend my congratulations to this extraordinary young man.

COMMENDING JACK YANOSOV FOR HELPING DESIGN THE TRANSMITTERS USED 35 YEARS AGO TODAY BY THE APOLLO SPACE MISSION THAT LANDED ON THE MOON

HON. FRANK A. LOBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2004

Mr. LOBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Jack Yanosov who helped design the transmitters that were used 35 years ago today in the Apollo mission that landed on the Moon.

It was a humble rise for Jack Yanosov, who began his career on the RCA assembly line, and would eventually become the lead engineer on the Apollo communications project. It was on a transmitter built by Jack Yanosov that the first words were ever spoken on a planetary body other than Earth. It was 35 years ago today, on July 20, 1969 that Neil Armstrong uttered his famous words that would inspire a generation, "One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." The good news for Neil Armstrong and the rest of the world, Jack Yanosov's transmitter worked just like it was designed to do.

Today is a special day for our Nation. Thirty-five years ago, our country was locked in an arms race during a cold war that threatened to turn hot at any moment. The race for the Moon was more than just a prize in the darkest reaches of space, it symbolized our Nation's commitment to American ingenuity. We

met our goal and made it to the Moon, and we did it first. I am proud that a resident of New Jersey played such an important role in this groundbreaking human achievement. I would like to congratulate Jack Yanosov, and thank him on behalf of the people of New Jersey's Second Congressional District and America for a job well done.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CLIFTON LIONS CLUB

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the Lions Club Chapter of Clifton, Colorado on their sixty-fifth anniversary. Over the years, this organization has provided an invaluable service to the community, both socially and philanthropically. It is my privilege to acknowledge their service and achievements before this body of Congress and this nation today.

The Lions Club is an international organization that has existed since 1917. The Clifton chapter was chartered in 1939 with the purpose of creating a social group to serve the community. The primary function of the Lions Club is to focus on preventing and fighting blindness and helping people with visual impairments improve their quality of life. They also work more generally to improve the community in any way they can. The chapter is active in the community by holding events that attempt to raise the morale in the community by bringing people together at carnivals or pancake breakfasts, while at the same time raising money for their causes.

Mr. Speaker, the Clifton Lions Club has dutifully served the Clifton community for sixty-five years. Their hard work and dedication makes the community stronger. I congratulate the Clifton Lions Club on their anniversary and wish them all the best in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2004

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably detained in my district. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall Nos. 391, 392, and 393.